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10. In clause 50, in sub-clause (2), line 2, *omit* the figures ' 15 '.

11. In clause 51—

- (i) in sub-clause (1), *for* the words 'coconut and arecanut' *substitute* the words 'coconut, arecanut and pepper'; and
- (ii) in sub-clause (2), *for* the words 'coconuts and arecanuts' *substitute* the words 'coconuts, arecanuts and pepper'.

APPENDIX XII.

(Vide item 9 under heading X on page 99 *supra*.)

G.O. No. 509, Development, dated 22nd March 1929.

READ—the following paper:—

Recommendations of the Non-official members of the Textile Conference.

In June 1924 the Government published an order in connexion with the Textile branch of the Department of Industries in which they stated that "It was at least open to doubt whether in spite of the large expenditure that had been and was being incurred on the efforts of the Industries Department to improve the handloom weaving industry during the last twenty-five years any real improvement had been effected. They therefore proposed to appoint a committee of persons conversant with the industry and with the trade in its products, to examine its present position and future prospects and to advise the Government, whether it was desirable that the efforts to resuscitate the handloom weaving industry through the medium of State assistance should be continued and whether the expenditure incurred in the past had made any material difference to the industry and if the continuance of State assistance was desirable how best it could be made effective." The Committee proposed by Government was however not appointed and instead the views of some non-official gentlemen were obtained at an informal conference held in March 1925. It would appear that the members of the conference were not furnished with a memorandum prepared either by the Director of Industries or by the Textile Expert and as the result of their informal discussion they merely suggested that the present work might continue without expressing any opinion on the important issues raised in the Government's order.

2. Many circumstances have combined to draw public attention to the Textile section of the Industries Department. For several years past the work of the Department of Industries came in for a good deal of adverse criticism both in and out of the Legislative Council and the Government Order referred to above on the most important section of this department only helped to strengthen the view that the condition of the principal cottage industry of this Presidency did not receive the attention it deserved. In addition, the increasing extent of unemployment and the growing poverty in rural areas have helped to turn public attention to the handloom weaving industry as one of the principal means for their solution, utilizing the Textile branch of the Industries Department for the purpose in view. In November 1927, a large number of members of the local Legislative Council representing the different parties, tabled a resolution in the following terms for constituting the Textile branch of the Department of Industries into a separate department placed directly under Government: "This Council

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- (iii) in sub-clause (3), line 2, *for* the figures '13' *substitute* the figures '14'; and
- (iv) *after* sub-clause (3), *insert* the following sub-clause:—
- “(4) In any suit in which eviction is claimed on the ground specified in clause (7) of section 14, if the tenant
- (i) (a) deposits in court for payment to the plaintiff in the suit one year's fair rent of the holding in advance or furnishes security for the same or deposits in court for such payment a portion of such fair rent and furnishes security for the remainder, or
- (b) where he has already paid a portion of the said fair rent or furnished security for a portion thereof, deposits in court for payment to the plaintiff the balance of the said fair rent or furnishes security for such balance or deposits in court for such payment a portion of such balance and furnishes security for the remainder; and
- (ii) deposits in court for payment to the plaintiff the costs of the latter up to the date of deposit the court shall dismiss the suit.”
5. If amendments 2 to 4 are accepted, and not otherwise, then the following:—
- Omit* existing clause 15.
6. In clause 18—
- (i) in sub-clauses (1) and (2), *after* the words 'fruit-bearing trees' wherever they occur, *insert* the words 'and pepper vines where pepper is not the principal crop', and
- (ii) in the Explanation, *for* the words 'nuts and fruits' *substitute* the words 'nuts, fruits and pepper'.
7. In clause 28—
- (i) *for* the words 'under this Act' in lines 2 and 3, *substitute* the words and figures 'under section 12'; and
- (ii) in the proviso, *for* all the words beginning with the words 'unless the fair rent' *substitute* the following:—
- “unless the rent fixed under section 12 has been taken into account for the purpose of calculating the renewal fee under Chapter IV and there has been a renewal, in which case, such rent shall be payable by the cultivating verumpattamdar from the date of renewal.”
8. In clause 40, in sub-clause (2), line 3, *for* the figures '13' *substitute* the figures '14'.
9. In clause 43—
- (i) in sub-clause (1) (a), line 2, *for* the figures '14' *substitute* the figures '15'; and
- (ii) in sub-clause (1) (b), line 2, *for* the figures '14' *substitut e* the figures '15'.

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From the materials placed before us we find that the production of cotton cloth on handlooms in India has since the war increased by nearly 200 million yards per annum or nearly 20 per cent. Far from showing signs of decline the industry exhibits a remarkable vitality which encourages the hope of a better future if the industry is properly and promptly organized and placed on a commercial footing. From the figures relating to the rate and cost of production of cotton cloth on the handloom, we find that many of the fallacies which held the field so long regarding the economic inefficiency of the handloom have been effectively exposed. In a country like India, the handloom as a cottage industry has certain advantages over the powerloom. The Textile Expert's note shows that the actual cost of production on the handloom is lower than that on the powerloom and that for the same investment the quantity of cloth produced on the handloom is larger than on the powerloom. But the price of handloom cloth when it reaches the market is at present higher by 7 to 10 per cent than the power products. In spite of the higher price, as much as about 4 million yards of cotton cloth are produced on the handlooms in this Presidency.

5. As the production of cotton cloth of higher count and of variegated patterns on the handloom will provide work for only a small number of weavers on account of a limited demand for it, it is necessary that the bulk of the production on the handloom should be the ordinary wearing apparel of the masses if the million and odd cotton weavers entirely dependent on handloom, part-time agriculturists and the depressed classes are to be provided with an occupation which will give them a living wage. Hence, in this sphere of work, the handloom and the powerloom have necessarily to stand on a common ground. If the handloom product should hold the field, the existing disparity in price between the hand and the power product has to be removed. It is only then that the large quantity of cloth produced on the handloom can be marketed, continuity of employment provided to the handloom weaver and remunerative work found for the weavers, the part-time agriculturists and the depressed classes.

6. In considering the means of removing the disparity in prices no useful purpose will at present be served by launching on a detailed discussion of the various methods of providing protection to the handloom cotton weaving industry. On the representations made by the Millowners' Association, the Government of India have offered protection and also assisted the cotton mill industry by removing the excise duty on cloth, enhancing the import duty on yarns, removing the import duty on machinery and by deputing a trade mission to explore the possibility of markets for Indian mill goods in other countries and studying their requirement in that connexion. The Department of Industries has in future to urge for such steps as are likely to assist the handloom industry also. It is observed that as the result of the grant of protection to the Indian spinning mills, the competition between the handloom and the powerloom in respect of the wearing apparel of the masses has in recent years been intensified. In the case of cloths worn by the classes, the duty has to some extent affected the earnings of the handloom weavers and it is desirable that in order to enable the handloom weaving industry to survive in the competition, the duty on yarns of counts above 40s may be removed as also the duty on gold thread. As regards yarns of counts below 40s, which are mainly supplied by Indian mills, Government may stipulate a condition that they should not be below a standard strength test, and should

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be of the reputed count, correct length and weight. Government may also assist the handloom industry by providing cheap facilities by rail for transporting yarn and cloth for weavers' co-operative societies.

7. The solution of the problem of the removal of disparity in prices may also be sought for in other directions. In the memorandum submitted by the Textile Expert, he has suggested certain lines of development whereby it should be possible to effect the removal of disparity which may in its turn bring about a mutual adjustment as between the products of the hand and the power looms. His scheme consists of—

(a) an organization for securing yarns at a favourable rate either by direct purchase from the mills or by starting of a co-operative spinning mill or a mill worked by jail labour;

(b) an organization for preparing and distributing ready-made warps to the weavers which, while helping to standardize the products of the handloom, will set free the weavers' family from the unremunerative labour of preparing the warp for the loom;

(c) employment of two looms in place of one, with the help of the members of the weavers' family set free from the labour of warp preparation, thus increasing the output of cloth with distinct improvement in his present wage;

(d) an organization for taking the cloth from the weaver and marketing it for him thereby securing continuity of work for the weaver.

This organization will have the advantage of studying the market conditions, of advising weavers what to weave, and dealing with hand-woven goods duly standardized so that they can be guaranteed for quality and placed in a marketable form. These proposals would appear to have been dealt with by the Textile Expert in a bulletin published by the Government as early as 1923.

8. The scheme of the Textile Expert involves activities on four distinct lines. The first is the improvement of the technique of the handloom; the second, imparting technical training; the third, bringing into existence linked organizations for the supply of ready-made warps and also popularizing preparatory mechanical processes for warping and sizing; and the fourth, placing the industry on a commercial footing with the help of co-operative organizations. On the technical side, an appreciable advance would appear to have been made since the appointment of the Textile Expert, but the progress might have been more rapid but for the lack of necessary expert mechanical assistance in the evolution of improved textile appliances. There could have been greater results in the evolution of such appliances with closer co-operation of the engineering branch. We learn that the proposed amalgamation of the Industrial Engineering Workshop with the Public Works Workshop was not given effect to mainly on the ground that one of the special functions of the former was to undertake research work for the various sections of the Department of Industries. It appears that the proposals made by the Textile Expert to set apart a portion of the Engineer's workshop with a competent machanic to work under the instructions of the Textile Expert for evolving new appliances have not yet been given effect to. We recommend that a qualified mechanic should be added to the staff of the Textile Institute for pushing on research work under the supervision of the Textile Expert. Facility should also be provided by setting apart a portion of the Industrial Engineer's workshop to carry out

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the needful experiments. When an appliance has been evolved and found to be suitable for the purpose, the Industrial Engineer should undertake to manufacture it in bulk and to offer them for sale at cost price (without overhead charges), for some time at least, in view of the poor and indebted condition of the weaving population of the Presidency.

9. With regard to technical training, the delay in the provision of a suitably designed building fitted with gas, steam, water and motive power for the Textile Institute has hampered the work in this direction.

We are glad that arrangements are being made to transfer the Institute to the premises of the Leather Trades School. We hope that the necessary alterations and additions will be provided for with the least possible delay.

We recommend that the carpet weaving classes now conducted in the School of Arts and Crafts should be transferred to the Textile Institute.

All the textile industries should continue, as at present, to be under the control and supervision of the Textile Expert. The Institute should receive his direct and close attention, and we consider the purpose will be better served by locating the office of the Expert in the Institute itself.

From the materials placed before us, we find that the subject of imparting instruction in weaving in aided industrial schools in the mufassal has not received proper attention. We find that, while the Government aid these schools, they have practically no effective control over the work done in them. Consequently, these schools, imparting training in handloom weaving as one of their activities, have not been brought into line with the work carried on in the Textile Institute which is planned to help in the ultimate organization of the handloom industry. This appears to be due to the fact that, even after the appointment of a Textile Expert, these schools have continued to be under the Inspector of Industrial Schools with no textile training. We invite the attention of the Government to the note of the Textile Expert supplied to the Conference on the working of the weaving schools. We are not satisfied that the way in which the industrial weaving schools are at present conducted and supervised is productive of useful results.

We recommend that the system of technical education in weaving should be reorganized by framing a curriculum of studies in theory and practice by the Textile Expert for introduction in the aided schools and transferring the supervision and inspection of these schools to the Expert.

10. The present system of demonstration by peripatetic parties in our opinion has been attendant with good results in the popularization of the improved method of weaving. It is capable of producing better results if the parties are strengthened and the members trained to demonstrate the various preparatory processes of warping and sizing by mechanism in grey and coloured yarns.

We consider that the proper equipment of the Textile Institute would require a power dressing and sizing machine and any system by which ready-made warps should be made available to the weavers on a large scale would also require the use of one or more power dressing and sizing machines. It does not appear to us that there was any necessity to part with such a machine which the Institute had. We recommend that another machine, if possible of a cheaper model, be obtained and installed in the Textile Institute for the purpose of demonstration and instruction: otherwise, progress in the important direction of linked organization may not be facilitated.

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11. We consider that the improvement and the popularization of the technique alone will not suffice. A properly conceived policy for the betterment of the economic condition of the weavers and for enabling them to derive the benefits of co-operation for their improvement is also necessary. Towards that end, a system of co-operative societies specially designed for affording them credit, for supplying them with yarn cheap, for arranging for marketing facilities for their finished products and for supplying them with information on all allied matters, should be organized. The first note supplied by the Co-operative department has not under-rated the difficulties in this direction; but we feel that the efforts till now made were not the results of any comprehensive or any specially designed policy. We further feel that in the efforts till now made, there was no inter-related and co-ordinated action between the Co-operative department and the textile section of the industries. We hope with Mr. F. R. Hemmingway, the author of the Co-operative Manual, that "there must be room for very great improvement in the economic condition of the weaver if co-operative organizations can be formed. Careful and cool study of these trades will be necessary, but the thing *can be done* and there is no extravagant fancy in a mental picture of a network of weaving societies throughout the Presidency, organized into central and wholesale societies which are closely in touch with yarn and cloth trade, can get the weaver his yarn cheap, can advise him what to weave and can sell his cloth for him." The report of the Townsend Committee on Co-operation in Madras confirms this view. It states that "the help given by the co-operative movement to weavers, so far, is negligible. Most of the weaver societies are doing little, if any work. Yet that some at any rate of the weavers' troubles can be lessened by the application of co-operative methods is certain. We think that Government should take special measures to help this community. We do not consider that the steps so far taken to that end are adequate."

In addition to the above views, the Royal Commission on Indian Agriculture also has recorded that "the handloom weaving industry in India is still of great importance in the natural economy and has up to the present shown remarkable vitality in face of competition with factory products. It is likely to remain the principal form of village industry and there is no immediate reason to fear its decline." The Commission added that they found few, if any, indications during their enquiries that the departments of Industries were exercising any appreciable influence on rural developments.

12. The chief points in this connexion to be borne in mind are—

(1) The widespread poverty of the weaving classes who have an ancient and hereditary craft in their possession which, but for the modern competition of machine cloth, would have kept them in a comparatively better condition economically;

(2) the utter extinction of the hand-spinning in India, which was previously widespread, reducing them to entire dependence on mill-made and imported yarn and the consequent necessity of a cheap supply of yarn to them;

(3) the necessity for the introduction of mechanized process to be linked with handlooms;

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(4) the weavers' dependence on and indebtedness to middlemen who alone now are mostly the agents for marketing the finished goods ;

(5) the absence of any channel by which information regarding the requirements of the markets—home and foreign—and the marketing conditions can be made available to the handloom weavers.

We consider that the handloom weaving in India is not a new industry sought to be introduced, but it is an ancient industry languishing for want of adequate support. A large population who, though now earning a precarious livelihood, are in danger of being thrown out of employment. Such unemployment would raise a great and serious problem for the Government. We feel, therefore, that no effort can be spared by the Government in helping to place the industry on a better and more profitable footing. We recommend that early steps must be taken for organizing a system of co-operative societies as contemplated by Mr. Hemmingway and that Government must render support in giving necessary financial help and strengthening the staff of the department.

The suggestion of the Registrar in his note for the appointment of a Deputy Registrar for each district appeared to us to be too much for the purpose of organizing weavers' societies ; but we were glad to learn from the Registrar that this was only a part of a general scheme of expansion of the department otherwise and had no special reference to the weaver societies.

13. The notes of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies invite pointed attention to the evil of growing drink habit among the weavers. While we think that such a habit exists, we consider that it is due more to the depressing economic conditions and the surroundings in which they live and the facilities that exist for drink. Undoubtedly the co-operation of the Excise department is urgently needed and it should take note of this and do everything in its power, even if not in prohibition altogether, at any rate, in the matter of location of shops and in placing conditions in the licence for limiting the time of sale, prohibiting sale to women and youth and forbidding sale altogether on festive days.

14. The prospect of success in improving the industry lies in devising a linked organization and in co-ordinated effort of a sustained character in which the textile section of the industries, now one of the branches under the Director of Industries and the Co-operative department must take part and work conjointly. That the past efforts have not produced adequate results cannot be gainsaid. It is obvious that a Director dealing with a number of industries each involving its own problems and a distinct set of processes—scientific, mechanical and artistic—can hardly be expected to do adequate justice to the heavy strain of this multifarious work, especially when most of the Directors of Industries in Madras have been Civilians who, with no special training for this post, came in as Directors and went out to take charge of other Civil offices for which their experiences gained as a Director would be of little avail. We recognize the very hard and laborious work of these Directors, but we are not convinced that this system is conducive to the improvement and development of handloom textile industry with its many branches and varied sets of processes. Being the biggest industry after agriculture and affecting nearly two millions of the people of this Presidency, we think that one of the necessary means for achieving the result desired, by sustained and co-ordinated effort towards the amelioration

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of the hard lot of weavers and the improvement of the handloom industry would be by constituting the textile section into a separate department. Some administrative difficulties and additional cost were mentioned as points against the formation of a separate department. We consider that they are not insuperable and that the importance of this branch of industry requires the constitution of a separate department and this question deserves the favourable consideration of the Government.

15. Even if the question of the formation of a separate department would involve an inter-departmental discussion and re-arrangement of the functions of other sections and departments and entail delay in coming to conclusion on this subject, we recommend that the other suggestions and recommendations we have made and those which are made in the Textile Expert's memorandum and in the note of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies be taken up by the Government for early consideration and orders and prompt effect given. In view of the importance of the textile section, we further recommend that, pending consideration of the separation of the department, the Textile Expert be made a Deputy Director to deal with the textile section alone—the existing Deputy Director being left to deal with the other sections of the Industries department—both the Deputy Directors to work under the Director. We consider that this is feasible without any extra cost and that this arrangement will tend to a closer touch with the Government immediately through the Director of Industries and result in quicker despatch of business and in better results.

16. We further consider that an Advisory Committee for the textile section is indispensable for advising the Government in all matters relating to the improvement of the textile industry and the betterment of the weaving classes.

17. We desire to place on record the help rendered and the courtesy shown to us by the hon. the Minister and the other officers of the Government concerned in the work of this Conference.

Order—No. 509, Development, dated 22nd March 1929.

In November 1927, the following resolution was tabled in the Legislative Council recommending the constitution of the Textile Branch of the Department of Industries into a separate department placed directly under Government:—

“This Council recommends to the Government that the importance and magnitude of the hand-spinning and hand-loom weaving and connected cottage industries and the urgent need for their development and for tackling the various problems connected with them be recognized and that the textile branch, which forms the largest section in the activities of the Department of Industries be formed into a separate department under the Development Department.”

On the assurance given by the hon. the Minister for Development that he would convene a Conference with a view to obtaining its opinion on this question the resolution was withdrawn.

2. In accordance with the above assurance a Conference was convened by the Government in September 1928 to discuss the working of the textile

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section and consider the lines of future progress and development consisting of the following gentlemen and presided over by the hon. Minister for Development :—

M.R.Ry. T. C. Srinivasa Ayyangar Avargal, B.A., B.L., M.L.C.,

„ B. Ramachandra Reddi Garu, B.A., M.L.C.,

„ C. Gopala Menon Avargal, M.L.C.,

„ N. Siva Raj Avargal, B.A., B.L., M.L.C.,

Mr. G. Brunnschweiler,

Mr. Leslie Coles,

M.R.Ry. P. T. Kumaraswami Chetti Avargal,

Hajee Abdul Raheem Sahib Bahadur and

The Director of Industries.

The Conference met on the 10th September, 6th November, 20th December 1928 and on 9th, 10th and 11th January 1929. Mr. Leslie Coles proceeded to England after the second sitting of the Conference and so did not attend the subsequent meetings. The Secretary to Government, Development Department, attended all the meetings. The Conference heard the views of the Textile Expert, Registrar and Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies and the non-official members submitted a report embodying their recommendations on the 11th January 1919. The Government have given their careful consideration to this report and now proceed to pass orders on the various recommendations.

3. The Conference recommend that the duty on all counts of yarn above 40s and the duty on gold thread should be removed, that, in the case of yarn supplied by Indian mills, it should be prescribed that they should not be below a standard strength test, and should be of the reputed count, correct length and weight and that facilities should be procured for cheap transport by rail for yarn and cloth required for the weavers co-operative societies. As regards the removal of the import duty on yarn it may be observed that of the total quantity of yarn consumed by hand mills less than 10 per cent are of counts above 40s and the production of fine cloth can at best afford occupation only to a section of the weaving classes. The Government will, however, consider this recommendation further on receipt of a report which they are awaiting from the Director regarding the effect of the increased import duty on cotton twist, yarn, etc., levied in 1927. The Director will, in submitting the report, deal specifically with the recommendation of the Conference in detail and also with that relating to the removal of duty on gold thread. As regards the prescription of standard strength test, etc., the Government are inclined to think that the suggestion is likely to present practical difficulties and they therefore consider that the opinion of the local mills should be taken. The Director is requested to take the matter up with the important mills in the Presidency and report the result as early as possible. On the question of cheap transport over railways the Government consider that it would be preferable if the railway administrations were addressed when there is a prospect of creation of a sufficient number of weavers' societies. The Director of Industries and the Registrar of Co-operative Societies should keep this recommendation in mind and address Government in due course.

4. The Conference next review the measures to be taken with a view to improving the position of the hand-loom weaving industry on its technical

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and commercial sides and the Government agree generally that development should proceed on the lines indicated which are also in accordance with the proposals already framed by the department. The crux of the weavers' problem is how to standardize the products of the looms and to effect a reduction in the price of cloth without reducing the earnings of the weavers. Progress in the organization of the industry on its commercial and economic side is beset with considerable difficulties and the complex problem of producing standardized hand-made goods in quantity, of cheapening the cost of producing such goods, of replacing the middleman by a net work of co-operative societies, of creating a steady and regular demand for the cloths turned out and last but not least of improving the morality of the weaver and inculcating in him habits of thrift is one which is not easy of solution. The policy outlined for the betterment of the economic condition of the weavers postulates the setting up of a net work of co-operative societies specially designed for affording them the necessary credit, supplying them with cheap yarns and arranging for marketing facilities for their finished products. The prospects of success in this direction are not very encouraging in view of the improvident and intemperate habits of the weaver. The Co-operative department have already organized some societies and the Registrar will now be requested to pay specific attention to the development of weavers' societies along the lines recommended by the Conference and submit any special proposals which require the sanction of Government in giving effect to them.

The Government have in this connexion considered the question whether a partial solution of the present problem of the weaver could not to a certain extent be found by diverting some of the members of the community to other branches of the textile industry, for instance hosiery, artificial silk, etc. The Textile Expert has been asked to examine the possibilities of introducing these industries on a more extensive scale and he has been instructed to carry out intensive inquiries as regards particular branches of the industry such as Madras handkerchiefs and lunghis.

5. While discussing the technical side of the industry the Conference recommends that a portion of the Industrial Engineer's workshop should be set apart for the use of the Textile Expert to enable him to carry out the necessary experiments in the evolution of improved appliances and that a qualified mechanic should be added to his staff for the purpose. They further recommend that if and when appliances have been evolved and found suitable for the purpose, the Industrial Engineer should undertake to manufacture them in bulk and to offer them for sale at cost price without overhead charges. The Government accept these suggestions. The Director should spare a mechanic from the sanctioned staff for the use of the Expert. If one with the requisite qualification is not available among the existing staff the Director is requested to submit proposals for the recruitment of a mechanic with the qualifications required to undertake the work in view. There may be practical difficulties in setting aside a portion of the Industrial Engineer's workshop for the use of the Textile Expert but the Director is requested to arrange to grant all facilities for the mechanic to conduct his work there and report the results of the working of this arrangement at the end of a year. The Textile Expert is also permitted in addition to arrange with the engineering firms to have experimental machines and plans constructed to his design.

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6. On the question of technical training and education and its control the Conference recommend that the Textile Institute should be transferred to the Leather Trades School buildings, that the carpet-weaving class attached to the School of Arts and Crafts should be transferred to the Textile Institute, that the office of the Textile Expert should be located in the Textile Institute itself and that all responsibility for supervision and inspection of aided schools that teach weaving should be taken away from the Inspector of Industrial Schools and vested in the Textile Expert.

7. The transfer of the Textile Institute to the Leather Trades School premises has already been ordered and the Director has been asked to submit proposals for extensions and alterations to the Institute. The consideration of the proposal for the transfer of the carpet weaving class to the Textile Institute will be deferred until the receipt of the report of the committee about to be appointed in connexion with the re-organization of the School of Arts and Crafts. The Government accept the recommendation of the Conference that the office of the Textile Expert should be located in the Textile Institute. The Director should arrange to have this transfer effected immediately. As regards the recommendation that supervision and inspection of weaving classes in aided schools should be transferred to the Textile Expert, the Government observe that at present there is only one weaving school in the Presidency and in thirteen aided schools weaving forms one of the subjects taught. It would be administratively difficult to treat the weaving section of the schools as a separate unit for purposes of recognition, inspection and grant-in-aid and dual control over these schools by the Textile Expert and the Inspector of Industrial Schools would lead to undesirable consequences. The Government therefore consider that for the present the following arrangement should be adopted with a view to improving the instruction imparted in weaving in the various schools. The Textile Expert should be instructed to make it a rule to visit from time to time all schools in which instruction in weaving is given and if he notices any defects or considers any improvements necessary he should bring them to the notice of the Director who should, in consultation with the heads of the institutions, give careful consideration to the suggestions of the Textile Expert. The Expert should be asked to examine the present curriculum of instruction in weaving and any revision or modification suggested by him should be given effect to in consultation with the management of the schools. The Expert should be consulted before any amendment or revision of the curriculum is undertaken in the future.

8. On the subject of propaganda and demonstration the recommendation of the Conference is that peripatetic weaving parties should be strengthened and that a power dresser sizing machine should be installed in the Textile Institute. The Government accept the need for increasing the peripatetic weaving parties and the Director is requested to formulate proposals and submit them to Government at an early date. As regards the installation of a power dresser sizing machine the Government wish to draw attention to the fact that the department till very recently possessed a machine but, in view of the fact that it was not serving any great purpose and that there were great difficulties in popularizing the use of machine-made warps to a considerable extent, the Government ordered its disposal to a private firm which proposed to work it at full capacity for the benefit of the weavers. The Government consider that the objects underlying the purchase of the plant

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are likely to be achieved much more rapidly when it is worked by the private firm to whom it has been disposed of. The Government therefore doubt whether a second machine if purchased would produce any more satisfactory results. But the question of installing a machine will be considered when there is a definite prospect of the creation of the requisite linked organizations.

9. The Conference have recommended that side by side with the technical improvement steps should be taken to combat the evil of drink habit among the weavers. They have suggested that the co-operation of the Excise Department should be secured and have pointed out the ways in which that department could assist in reducing this drink evil. This recommendation will be examined separately in the Revenue Department.

10. The Conference recommend that one of the necessary means for achieving the desired result towards the amelioration of the weaver community and the improvement of the handloom industry would be by constituting the textile section into a separate department and suggest that pending consideration of the creation of a separate department, the Textile Expert be made a Deputy Director to deal with the textile section alone working under the Director. The Government have given their careful consideration to these suggestions and direct that the designation of the Textile Expert should be changed to Assistant Director (Textiles). The examination of the suggestion regarding the creation of a separate department for textiles should wait until the results of the working of the arrangement herein approved for the separation of the office of the Expert from that of the Director of Industries are known.

11. The Conference recommend that an advisory committee for the textile section is indispensable for advising the Government in all matters relating to the improvement of the textile industry and the betterment of the weaving classes. The Government accept this recommendation and separate orders will issue regarding the constitution of this committee.

12. The Government desire to express their thanks to the members of the Conference for their valuable suggestions.

(By order of Government, Ministry of Development)

A. MCG. C. TAMPOE,
Secretary to Government.

To the members of the Conference.

„ Director of Industries.

„ Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

„ Secretary to Legislative Council, for placing on Council Table.

Editors' Table.